



#8/A<sup>EXT 3</sup>  
5/1/03  
PATENT  
Hayes

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Sogard )  
Serial No.: 10/026,379 )  
Filed: December 18, 2001 ) Art Unit  
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ) 2881  
INSPECTING A MASK )  
Examiner: Bernard Souw )  
Attorney Docket: PA0335-US/11269.34 )

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This amendment and response is to the Office Action dated October 24, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 24, 2003. Please amend the above-captioned patent application as set forth below. This amendment and response is timely filed because a three-month extension of time has been paid for and requested.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class, postage prepaid mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this the 24th day of April, 2003.

5/4 STEVEN G. ROEDER, Attorney for Applicant--Registration No. 37,227

In the Drawings:

A separate letter to Draftsman is attached hereto requesting approval of the amendments to Figure 1B and Figure 2.